The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Plant Worker Killed in Drone Attack, IAEA Says

By AFP

November 09, 2026



A Russian soldier stands guard at a checkpoint near the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. **REUTERS / Alexander Ermochenko**

A drone strike on Monday killed an employee at the Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in Ukraine, the UN's nuclear watchdog said.

"The IAEA has been informed that one employee was killed in a drone attack today, in the latest incident affecting plant personnel and further endangering nuclear safety and security during the military conflict," the International Atomic Energy Agency said in a post on X.

An employee of the nearby Zaporizhzhia thermal power plant, a conventional fossil-fuel power station, was also killed by a drone on Monday, the IAEA said.

The Vienna-based agency last reported that an employee was killed in a drone attack at the nuclear plant in late October, reportedly a welder at a repair workshop.

IAEA director general Rafael Grossi "strongly condemns the deadly strikes and says they represent unacceptable attacks violating indispensable nuclear safety pillars," the agency said.

"All such attacks on nuclear plant workers must stop immediately" and "all nuclear plant personnel must be able to carry out their important work without undue stress or fear," it added.

Russian forces captured the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in March 2022 shortly after the launch of the full-scale invasion.

Zaporizhzhia is Europe's largest nuclear facility and has repeatedly been at the center of safety concerns during the war.

Russia and Ukraine regularly accuse the other of attacking the site, which sits on the banks of the Dnipro River near the front line.

IAEA teams have had a permanent presence at the plant since September 2022. Zaporizhzhia's six reactors have been shut down since 2022.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/11/09/zaporizhzhia-nuclear-plant-worker-killed-in-drone-attack-iaea-says-a94213